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INSIDE FROM THE NEW YORK TIMES WEEKLY REVIEW

70 wounded in Ethiopian immigrant demo

BILL HUTMAN and BATSHEVA TSUR

THOUSANDS of Ethiopian immigrants clashed with police outside the Prime Minister's Office yesterday, in one of the most violent demonstrations Jerusalem has seen in recent years. More than 70 people were hurt.

Police used tear gas, rubber bullets, and stun grenades to break up the protest. One demonstrator was seriously wounded, after apparently being clubbed in the head by a policeman. A policeman was wounded in the eye by a stone.

The other wounded were reported suffering from only minor injuries, mostly tear gas inhalation. About half the wounded were policemen. Five demonstrators were detained, but released by the end of the day-long protest.

"Today the anger, built up from all the years of being lied to and expected to remain quiet, is being expressed," said Addisu Messala, head of the Unified Ethiopian Immigrants' Organization.

The protest was sparked by last week's revelation that the country's blood banks discard most blood donated by Ethiopian immigrants, because members of this community are 50 times more likely to be HIV carriers than other Israelis.

Protesters threw stones and bottles, beat policemen with umbrellas, and vandalized parked cars.

At one point, the stone- and bottle-throwing forced many policemen to run for cover inside the Prime Minister's Office compound, as did the tear gas that turned on them with the wind.

"Look how we're being treated



Policemen run for cover during yesterday's demonstration by Ethiopian immigrants outside the Prime Minister's Office. The meeting was attended by Absorption Minister Yair Tzaban, Health Minister Ephraim Sneh, Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal, Chief of General Staff Lt-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, and Police Insp.-Gen. Assaf Hefetz, as well as members of the Ethiopian community, led by Messala, and several kessim.

blood. But Peres was clearly not going to give in, an observer said. Jerusalem police chief Cndr. Arye Amit said police used tear gas when they believed there was a danger of the protesters breaking into the Prime Minister's Office. Police later also admitted to using rubber bullets and stun grenades.

"The protesters were completely out of control," Amit said. "It was like the intifada all over again."

Hefetz said many policemen were injured because they demonstrated restraint. "We should have been tougher," Israel Radio quoted him as saying.

The Prime Minister's Office, a multi-storied building surrounded by a fence, was under siege for most of the day by a crowd of demonstrators police estimated at between 8,000 and 10,000.

Border policemen stood atop the building and a police helicopter flew over the crowd. A water cannon and mounted policemen quickly proved useless in breaking up the protest.

"Stop the racism against black Jews," and "We are not viruses; we are black humans," were among the signs held by the protesters.

"I want the blood I donated over the last three years back," said Gideon Getahu, 25, of Karmiel. Getahu carried a club, that he said he would use to defend himself against police.

Another protester, his face covered with an Ethiopian flag, chanted: "Stop the racism," as he marched around holding a Magen David Adom blood donor's card in his hand.

In Washington, the Anti-Defamation League called on the government to exhibit sensitivity in dealing with the Ethiopian community.

"We understand the problem (Continued on Page 2)

Aloni slams Meretz colleagues, future plans a mystery

SARAH HONIG

COMMUNICATIONS Minister Shulamit Aloni refused to tell her party colleagues last night whether or not she would be running against them in the upcoming elections.

Aloni delivered a carping, acerbic speech at a tense meeting of the Citizens Rights Movement council in Ramat Efal. The CRM, which Aloni founded in 1973, is Meretz's central component party.

In her address, Aloni settled many long emotional and personal accounts, but the bottom line was that she would not run for Knesset on the Meretz ticket or fight to retain the party's leadership.

However, Aloni did not promise to support Meretz in the upcoming campaign or say she would be quitting politics for good. Thus, she left open the possibility that she might set up a rival list.

The meeting was the first CRM forum in a long time that was attended by both Aloni and her rival, Environment Minister Yossi Sarid. On previous occasions both made sure not to be in the room together at the same time.

While she clearly aimed many of her barbs at Sarid, Aloni carefully refrained from mentioning him by name.

But Aloni did say that she "no longer felt comfortable or welcome" in the party she founded because of the "evil and tormenting people I found there, people in whose company I could not sit."

Aloni complained about "those in Meretz who went to the press and called me stupid, who said I don't function any more and who argued that I am only of value to the opposition. They made me look like someone who is ludicrous and a chatterbox."

But despite all that, Aloni contended, her "ideology was and remains the ideology of Meretz. I never deviated from the Meretz way and yet I found myself all alone, isolated and abandoned."

She repeated her insistence that Meretz had forsaken the cause of civil rights.

"The argument that these had to be sacrificed for peace does not hold water. We sacrificed so much for the cause of peace and it would

The insult was too much to bear

BACKGROUND

BATSHEVA TSUR

brought blood to the peoples' heads," said Feldman, who brought the immigrants here as an emissary and today oversees the integration of Ethiopian olim on behalf of the Interior Ministry.

"For an Ethiopian, respect for him is cardinal. When Prime Minister Shimon Peres apologized, he hit the nail on the head. He helped to restore the loss in honor felt by the community.

"I hope the rest of the Israeli public will realize how sensitive the community is and how it was hurt, so that we can continue to build this fine fabric of integration

between two societies which are such worlds apart." Feldman said this is the second time the Ethiopian community has resorted to violence. In the early summer, stones were thrown at a demonstration in Be'erotayim.

"Some of the youths are more Israeli than Ethiopian when it comes to being gentle," he noted.

We'll agreed that youths took a central part in yesterday's demonstration. "The youths are highly motivated. It's more important for them to be part of Israeli society, to be accepted, than it is to get jobs or houses."

She believes the future is not clear—"it could go any way." But what is clear is that the community demonstrated its unity, its strength—and its electoral power.

'Six more inches and I could be dead'

EYEWITNESS

EVELYN GORDON

AFTER driving past the Ethiopian immigrants' demonstration yesterday, I believe I finally know what it feels like to be a settler. I now know what it feels like to have my car window shattered and my head narrowly missed by a potentially lethal rock—and how it feels to have the police not care at all.

At 3:20 p.m., I was on my way to the Supreme Court, as I am every day at about that time. As I drove down Rehov Ruppim past the demonstration, I suddenly heard a loud crash, and the inside of my car was covered with shattered glass. The window above the left rear door was completely gone, taken out by a rock bigger than my two fists. I was shaken by the knowledge that had the rock hit six inches farther forward, my head might have looked like my window does.

None of the dozens of policemen at the scene appeared to notice. A civilian who was standing

nearby came over to see if I was hurt, and when I said no, told me that I should get out of there. Instead, I tried to report the incident to a policeman on the spot, hoping that with prompt action, the perpetrator could be caught.

After three different policemen simply yelled at me and told me to go complain at headquarters in the Russian Compound, however, I gave up. I went to the Russian Compound, where a bored policeman was recording numerous similar complaints. In the five minutes it took me to fill out my form, three other people entered to complain of similar damage from the demonstrators.

All the complaints will no doubt be entered into some file to satisfy the bureaucracy. With the policemen at the site uninterested in searching for the perpetrators, however, it seems unlikely that they will ever be found. Apparently, the police don't care until blood is shed.

Peres: Progress made in talks with Syria, but no breakthrough

BATSHEVA TSUR and news agencies

ISRAEL and Syria made some progress on normalization and economic matters in their last round of talks in Maryland, but there was no breakthrough, Prime Minister Shimon Peres said yesterday.

The talks resume today after a weekend break.

Yesterday, US Middle East peace coordinator Dennis Ross met at his home for seven hours with the Israeli and Syrian delegation heads, Foreign Ministry Director-General Uri Savir and Ambassador Walid Muallem. No specific information on the session was available.

"There is progress. It is still not a breakthrough. We have not solved all the problems. It's always a matter of definition," Peres told Channel 1.

"It is correct that on the issue of normalization there is progress, on the economics issue there is progress," he said. "On the issue of security arrangements, talks have begun."

He refused to elaborate. But he said time was short—given that both Israel and the

Chief of General Staff Lt-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak for expressing pessimism over the chances of reaching an agreement with Syria this year. According to Israel Radio, Peres said the IDF had also expected the agreement with Jordan to take a long time and had been surprised at how quickly the accord was reached.

The threat of Iranian non-conventional arms was also reportedly discussed. Meanwhile, former OC Intelligence Uri Saguy told a gathering of the Council for Peace and Security that "in peace we will have to give up the Golan Heights. There will not be peace without a full withdrawal from the Golan Heights."

"Israel is holding a pathetic debate with the Syrians over the difference between the July 4, 1967 border and the international border," he said, adding that this argument indicates that the end result will be a full withdrawal from the Golan Heights.

Saguy also said that the peace with Syria will be no warmer than the peace with Egypt.

US are to hold elections in the fall—and the work ahead long. "I am a partner [to the idea] that there is a contradiction between the shortness of time and the seriousness and depth of the problems," Peres said.

Because of the wide gaps between the sides, the government is holding out little hope for real progress during Secretary of State Warren Christopher's visit to the region next week.

In Washington, it is already accepted that if there is no real progress in the next few weeks, the talks will be put on the back burner. But contacts, if not negotiations, between the sides will be maintained until after the US and Israeli elections, to prevent any regression from what has already been achieved.

At yesterday's cabinet meeting, the ministers heard the second part of a report from the IDF Intelligence Branch. No information was relayed to the media about its contents.

Peres is said to have rebuked

Police detain shooting suspect John du Pont

NEWTOWN SQUARE, Penn. (Reuter)—Millionaire John du Pont, suspected by police of killing Olympic wrestling gold medalist David Schmitz, has been detained by police, local officials said yesterday.

"They got him," said Delaware County emergency spokesman Bill Lovejoy. "It's over and he is alive."

A Reuters photographer said Du Pont was brought

to a local police station by a heavily-armed rapid response team.

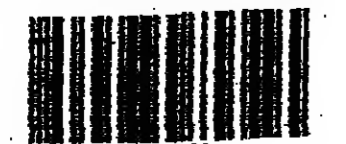
Du Pont is alleged to have shot dead Schmitz, who won a gold medal at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics in the freestyle 74 kg. class.

Schmitz lived with his wife and family in a house on the grounds of Du Pont's 800-acre estate.

Earlier story, Page 4

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# Amir doing a better job than his lawyers

COMMENT  
RAINE MARCUS

YIGAL Amir, a former law student, did a far better job representing himself than either of his lawyers at his trial yesterday. Admonishing attorney Jonathan Ray Goldberg several times and scolding his knowledge of Israeli law, Judge Edmond Levy again intervened during proceedings and not only allowed, but also directed Amir to defend himself.

While Goldberg's idea of cross-examining prosecution witnesses consisted of banal technical questions, Amir was far more sophisticated and to the point. When Dep.-Cmdr. Avi Cohen told the court he was certain that Amir used the word "murder," the defendant said: "I don't want to doubt your credibility, but I used the word 'manslaughter.'" "I used the word 'injure'; you used the word, 'murder,'" replied Cohen.

# Judge loses patience with Amir's attorney

RAINE MARCUS

MONEY from the US intended to help fund Yigal Amir's defense is being blocked by the government here, Amir's lawyer, Jonathan Ray Goldberg, told Tel Aviv District Court yesterday. As during previous hearings, Goldberg succeeded in incurring the wrath of Judge Edmond Levy for his apparent inability to defend his client.

Scores of other objections raised during the hearing were repeatedly turned down by Levy, who eventually lost his patience and suggested that Goldberg be tried by the Israel Bar Association's disciplinary committee for "scandalous violation of ethics." He also threatened to charge him with court costs.

The second condition, said Offit, was that he would have the final say in how to conduct the defense. Since the two lawyers' lines of defense did not correspond, Offit decided to quit. "However I am convinced that Yigal did not mean to kill late prime minister Rabin," he concluded.

bring its last witnesses today, including Rabin's bodyguard Yoram Rubin, who was wounded by Amir. The first witness, Chief Supt. Mordechai Naftali, head of Hayarkon sub-district's investigations division, where Amir was first taken after his arrest, described his shock at Amir's reaction when he told him that Rabin was dead.

"I decided to get a confession, which he [Amir] dictated to me, and then tell him the premier was dead." "When I told him, he did not move from his chair. 'Is he dead?' he asked. "Yes, I replied. "In that case I have done my part," replied Amir," said Naftali.

# Woman thought she was melting: rare mental syndrome occurs here

JUDY SIEGEL

A 28-YEAR-OLD Israeli woman is one of the few people in the world to be diagnosed with a strange, but usually short-lived psychiatric syndrome that caused her to believe the world and parts of her body were "melting" and that she would live forever. The rare illness, called Cotard Syndrome, is so obscure that it is not even listed in the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* - considered the psychiatrists' bible. Fewer than 20 cases have been authenticated in the world's medical literature over the past 20 years.

Community Mental Health Center. The woman is unmarried and an only child who completed only elementary school. She lives in sheltered housing and works in a factory. Complaining of anxiety, she suddenly claimed witches had cast a spell on her; when she looked in the mirror, she saw herself without a nose. A computerized scan of her head showed physiological changes in her brain. She was treated with drugs and psychotherapy and her condition improved.



Germany's 29-year-old Minister of Youth Affairs Claudia Nolte (second from right) talks with new immigrants at the Nurim youth village, as her host, Jewish Agency Youth Aliya Department head Yehiel Leket (left) looks on. (Joe Malcolm)

# Potential organ donors increase

JUDY SIEGEL

ABOUT 2,000 people registered as potential organ donors in December, compared with only 137 in October, the National Transplant Coordinating Center (NTCC) reported last week. The NTCC said part of the increase was due to repercussions of Yitzhak Rabin's assassination, and the rest resulted from a major information campaign it started on December 11.

# Ilan's 'March of Dimes' tomorrow

JUDY SIEGEL

THE incidence of cerebral palsy, a motor nerve disorder that can cause spastic paralysis of the limbs and frequently retardation, is significantly more common in Druse and Arabs than Jews because of inbreeding. This was disclosed by Dr. Shula Hermon, a pediatric neurologist at Sheba Hospital, who conducted the study on behalf of Ilan, the Israel Foundation for Handicapped Children. Ilan will tomorrow hold its annual "March of Dimes" fund-raising campaign by sending school-children to homes around the country.

While Lau claimed that there were no authorized rabbis who had sanctioned the actions of Yigal Amir, Jewish Agency Chairman Avraham Burg charged that "there is a spiritual infrastructure which gives a hechsher to this kind of fundamentalism." Prof. Ehud Sprinzak of the Hebrew University's Political Science Department described the assassination as "an act of des-

# Lau: No religious justification for bloodshed

GREER FAY CASHMAN

THERE is no religious justification for bloodshed, Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau told the opening 6th International Conference of the Jewish Media on Saturday night. Lau said that to cite Halacha as a basis for the killing of Yitzhak Rabin was a grave distortion.

He said there are only a few dozen violent activists on the extreme right, and most of them are inclined to be violent toward Palestinians. Very few advocate hurting Jews. Even though their language is one of "rhetorical violence," he said, "they are not violent, they are people in crisis." In his address, Burg focused on Jewish survival "without an external enemy." He wondered whether "we have enough common definitions which will enable us to function as a people."

peration, not an act of power." He said there are only a few dozen violent activists on the extreme right, and most of them are inclined to be violent toward Palestinians. Very few advocate hurting Jews. Even though their language is one of "rhetorical violence," he said, "they are not violent, they are people in crisis." In his address, Burg focused on Jewish survival "without an external enemy." He wondered whether "we have enough common definitions which will enable us to function as a people."

Assimilation, which threatens Jewish existence, has not yet been properly addressed by the Israel government and the world Jewish leadership, he said, adding that he intends to discuss it today at a government sponsored meeting on future relations between Israel and the Diaspora. Burg will press the government to help Jewish schools abroad to become the best in the world, so that people will want to send their children there.

# London to get Holocaust museum

HAIM SHAPIRO

LONDON'S Imperial War Museum (IWM) is to incorporate a Holocaust museum, according to Sir Sigmund Sternberg, chairman of the International Council of Christians and Jews, who was here last week for the World Jewish Congress Global Assembly. Sternberg said the staff of the IWM has agreed to the allocation of space for the "museum within a museum" and that funds are being solicited for the project.

floor above will show a related exhibit on the inhumanity of war, while the floor below is to be a conference and education center. The new museum is to be a major part of an IWM redevelopment scheme. The cost of the entire project is £12 million, of which £3.5m. is for fitting out the Holocaust exhibit. According to the IWM, the exhibit will take an objective stance on what it calls "uncomfortable truths" concerning Britain's role during the Holocaust. This includes restrictions on immigration, blockage of emigration to Palestine, and internment of Jewish refugees as enemy aliens.

# Genetic modeling proves paternity six years after alleged father died

JUDY SIEGEL

JERUSALEM genetic scientists have proven that a man who lived a "double life" and died of cancer six years ago was the father of the baby girl born to his mistress. The proof was based on old blood samples taken while he was being treated at Haifa's Rambam Hospital and made possible through polymerase chain reaction (PCR) techniques used at Hadassah-University Hospital on Mt. Scopus in Jerusalem.

Prof. Adam Friedmann, head of Hadassah's molecular biology unit, worked with Dr. Stella Rosenbaum and Dr. Anat Blumenfeld on the case, after being asked by a court to settle the paternity question on the basis of DNA. The man had undergone a biopsy and blood test at Rambam, but these tissue samples contained fewer than 1,000 cells of dried, old blood, making it impossible to determine his DNA type directly from them. The scientists worked

for three months to develop a model that would allow reconstruction of the blood sample to make it suitable for analysis. Using PCR, they multiplied the DNA segments in the blood into a million copies and obtained enough for analysis. In this case, because of the limited amount of genetic material, five markers - three of them rare - were tested. On the basis of three of them, his paternity of the girl, who is now nine years old, was proven with more than 97 percent accuracy.

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Getting real

# Eenie, Meenie



Prime Minister Chernomyrdin gives Moscow the line of his party, Our Home Is Russia; an older message ("We Are Building Communism") is still around.

# Join the Club: The Annals Of Default

By FLOYD NORRIS

IT'S a small, if not especially select, circle of countries that the United States will join if the wrangling in Washington forces the country to default on its debts. Last week the Treasury Secretary warned it could happen at the end of February. But only seven other countries have managed to default on debt in their own currency in the past quarter century.

The group is small because usually it's not that hard for a government to pay such debts. Paying off borrowings in foreign currencies can be hard; doing so in your own is normally easy. After all, government printing presses can simply churn out more currency.

So why do governments default? Usually because of revolution or total economic mismanagement and

## Revolution is one excuse. Chaos is another. What's Washington's problem?

disarray. In Vietnam, for example, the local currency debts of the old South Vietnamese regime were repudiated when the Communists took control in 1975. It wasn't that they couldn't pay; it was that they considered the debts illegitimate. A similar thing had happened in Russia after the 1917 revolution.

Economic disarray was the reason Argentina defaulted in 1982. Inflation had run rampant for many years, and the Government, to borrow in its own currency, had to promise to indemnify lenders against inflation by paying interest rates that would exceed the inflation rate. Issuing more currency just brought on more inflation, and eventually the Government decided to abrogate its contracts.

The other countries on the dishonor role for defaults, as compiled by Standard & Poor's Corporation, the debt-rating company, include Brazil, Venezuela, Myanmar and Angola. Russia joined the group after the Soviet Union collapsed.

None of the Western industrial powers has defaulted on debts in its own currency; no one has thought it possible. Neither revolution nor economic chaos seemed likely, particularly in the United States where Alexander Hamilton, more than 200 years ago, established the principle that this country pays its debts.

But it could happen, and for both reasons — disarray and revolution. No one who has followed the budget debate would deny there is economic disarray in Washington. And many of the Republicans in Congress,

Continued on page 2

# Picking America's Favorite Russian

By STEVEN ERLANGER

WASHINGTON  
AMERICANS are watching in confusion as Russia beats against the current, borne ceaselessly into the past. With Boris Yeltsin shelling villages, firing reformers, blowing the budget and placing intelligence operatives in key positions throughout the Government, trying to reinvent himself again before presidential elections in June, is he still America's guy?

And if not Mr. Yeltsin, for which of the likely presidential candidates should America root? And why?

The first problem is that Washington's clumsy embrace of Mr. Yeltsin may have done more harm than good. "You can argue that Yeltsin has been hurt by our rooting for him, and the Clinton Administration

## The U.S. has a stake in that other presidential race. And it's two cheers for Yeltsin.

has been hurt, by a lot," said Stephen Sestanovich of the Carnegie Endowment. "So who comes out ahead?"

Paul Goble, a steady critic of Administration policy now with the Potomac Foundation, which studies Eastern Europe, says it's time for the United States to stop embracing personalities in any case, as if countries had feelings rather than interests. "Since 1985," he said, first with Mikhail Gorbachev and now with Mr. Yeltsin, "we've identified with a leader rather

than a process." Once you do that, he says, "you have nowhere to retreat" when your favorites behave badly.

For instance, American officials admit they were too slow to condemn Russian behavior in Chechnya. Most people think they were just bending over backwards for their friend Mr. Yeltsin.

Secretary of State Warren Christopher says firmly that "America doesn't have a candidate in that election." It is the election itself that matters, he said last week, and the exercise of democracy.

But he immediately added that Mr. Yeltsin "has been a reformer" who has accomplished a lot. "We're very strongly supportive of the reformers who want to continue the reform," he said, "but we don't have a candidate in that election."

Of course America does have a candidate, given the alternatives, and that is the multi-flawed, pasty-

Continued on page 4

### Echoes

When it comes to interpreting a State of the Union address, context is everything.

By Todd S. Purdum

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### Space Character

The constantly changing definition of the right stuff

By William J. Broad

3

### The Long View

Crime is down. But it's been much lower. Can the past be retrieved?

By Clifford Krauss

3



## The Envelope, Please

# A Bribe's Not a Bribe When It's a Donation

By JANE FRITSCHE

WASHINGTON  
A lobbyist for the Superior Flange Company gives Senator Back-scratch 10 \$100 bills to introduce legislation deregulating the flange industry. The Senator makes a down-payment on a new car and has his staff draw up the bill.

A lobbyist for the Ace Framus Company sends a check for \$1,000 to Senator Willy's campaign fund. Senator Willy dips into the fund to lease a new car and introduces a bill to deregulate the framus industry.

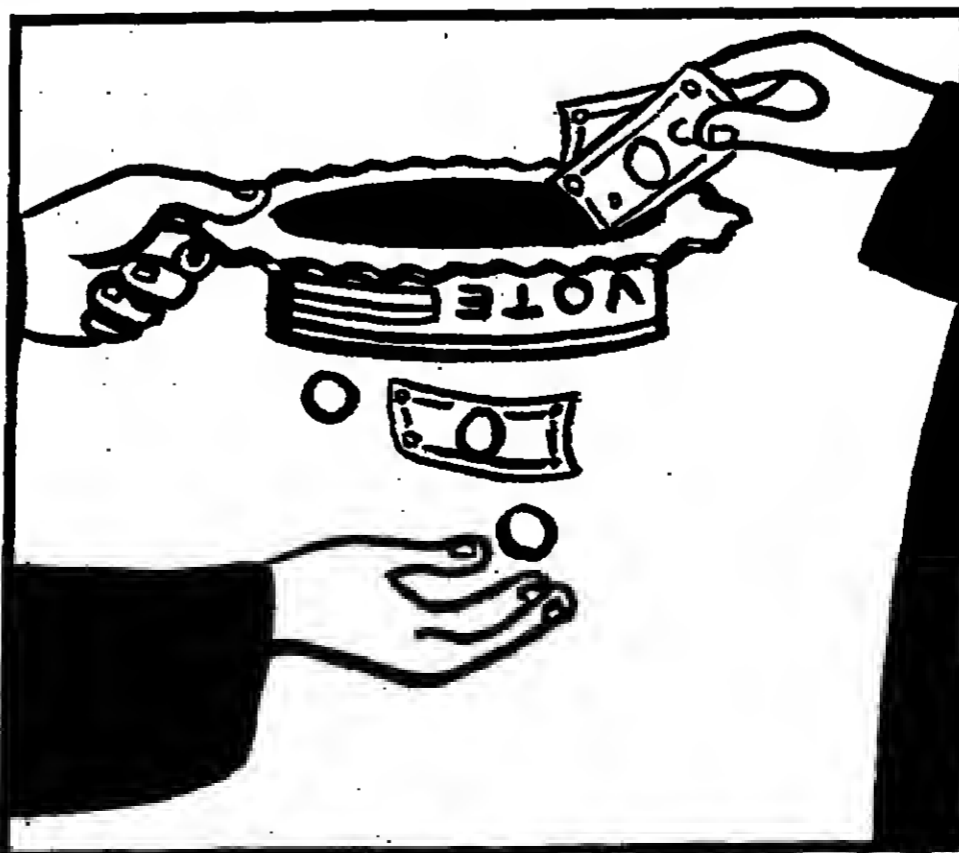
One man is an obvious criminal who could face time in prison. The other is a smart politician working the system like so many of his colleagues.

Why are the actions of one man considered illegal and the actions of the other legitimate? Legally, the answer rests on distinctions worthy of a Talmudic scholar. But practically, the answer is that money for influence is so entrenched a part of American politics that the campaign system would founder without it. Candidates have an endless hunger for money to stay competitive, and donors are savvy enough to get a return on their money. Otherwise, they would stop giving.

With campaign spending expected to reach a stratospheric \$100 million for this year's Presidential race alone, the influ-

ence of special interest money is emerging as a serious political issue. Last week, in his State of the Union Address, President Clinton, who has accepted his share of special interest money, called for the passage of bipartisan legislation that would sharply restrict the large donations that are now legal, including those to party committees that critics complain are used to skirt Federal election laws. It would also ban campaign funds used for personal expenses. The legislation was introduced last fall by a small group of senators and representatives from both parties, and support for it is hardly widespread.

Last Wednesday, the Republican National Committee collected more than \$16 million at its annual dinner, a record for a single fund-raising event. Chief among the inducements was a promise of special access to important House and Senate committee members and private meetings with House



Speaker Newt Gingrich and Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, as well as a private breakfast with the Presidential nominee. The price for a private meeting: \$250,000.

Technically, nothing in the law bars a prosecutor from charging an elected official with bribery for taking an official action on behalf of a campaign contributor. But prosecutors may hesitate to pursue such cases because of the difficulty in proving a quid pro quo, said Philip B. Heymann, a Harvard law professor and former Deputy Attorney General in the Clinton Administration.

"The person who gives always has a very strong argument that he in no way wanted to link it to any single vote," Mr. Heymann said. While an unreported cash payment looks highly suspicious to jurors, he said, a campaign donation has a presumption of legitimacy that must be overcome with substantial evidence of motive and intent, evidence that is often lacking.

"I think it's got to be a pretty stupid lobbyist who tries to make an explicitly criminal deal with a legislator," he said.

Stanley M. Brand, a Washington lawyer who has represented a number of politicians in trouble, said it is hard for a prosecutor to make a campaign contribution look like a bribe unless there is "the most explicit evidence" of a quid pro quo. "In 1996 people seem to have smartened up to where they don't have those conversations and writ-

Continued on page 3









In Iran, Quiet Little Films Are Speaking Volumes

By GERALDINE BROOKS

When 7-year-old Razieh, disobeying her mother, goes to watch some snake charmers, a neighborhood woman chides her for being where girls aren't supposed to be...

Each film must be approved both in screenplay and in final cut. The cast and crew must be vetted for political and religious correctness, and a rating system determines how wide and well publicized the film's release will be.

was approved because its stark portrayal of brutality toward American Indians shows the Great Satan in a bad light. 'The White Balloon,' winner of the Camera d'Or for best first feature film at the 1995 Cannes Film Festival...



'The Jar,' above, an Iranian film, tells a simple story about a cracked water jar at a school; Tahereh Ladania, right, appears in 'Through the Olive Trees,' a film by Abbas Kiarostami...



who can't get home for New Year because he lacks the bus fare. Other social pressures emerge. An elderly tailor is intimidated by a young client of the post-revolutionary generation...

Existential Androids

By ERIC P. NASH

SCIENCE fiction, which started out on the edges of literature and pulp fiction, has become more than mainstream; it is now an essential way of interpreting the world. Science-fiction films express everything from awe in the face of medical and technological advances...

'Nobody in Hollywood knew or cared about Philip K. Dick when I optioned the story in 1974 for \$1,000,' Mr. Shuset recalls. It was another decade before Hollywood caught up to the story's premise...

A glimpse into how technology has changed consciousness. Dick himself was all too human. Everything in his life was excessive. He churned out 35 novels and 6 volumes of short stories...

fiction productions like 'Screamers' and Terry Gilliam's critically acclaimed new time-travel epic, '12 Monkeys.' Forthcoming releases include the \$60 million thriller 'Independence Day,' by Roland Emmerich...

THE MODERN CYNIC

BY MICHAEL W. PERRY / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Crossword puzzle grid with clues and answers. Includes sections for Across, Down, and an Answer to Previous Puzzle. Clues range from '1 Waste' to '103 1965 Yardbirds hit'.













**Key Representative Rates**

US dollar	NIS 3.1580	Change	---
Sterling	NIS 4.7670	Change	---
Mark	NIS 2.1220	Change	---

### Precious metals market starts climb toward \$400

#### COMMODITIES ROUNDUP

FRIDAY'S precious metals market fulfilled Thursday's original forecast, as funds and speculators began to take further profits as the market mounts a slow climb toward the \$410 mark on the April futures contract.

A stronger US dollar also kept pressure on any upside attempt by gold futures, sources said.

Continued failure to balance the federal budget or extend a debt-limit ceiling has prompted increasing alarm in the financial markets, but not all metals analysts believe that gold is being boosted by concerns over debt limits.

At the close, February gold prices were 90 cents lower at \$405.80, April platinum prices were \$4.00 lower at \$422.10 and March palladium was \$2.95 lower at \$128.30.

Silver futures settled weaker on Friday following an early rally which stalled after gold failed to hit the key \$410 an ounce level. March silver prices were four cents lower at \$5.545 an ounce.

Silver has been persistently lagging behind gold since the beginning of the year, despite a recent decrease in Comex warehouse stocks to eight-year lows.

After a quiet day of uneventful trading, Comex copper futures ended lower on Friday as the market absorbed another hike in LME stocks.

The March Comex copper future ended 0.70 cents down at 112.90 cents a pound.

Hot corn futures were boosted to a higher close on Friday, pushed by a rally in the wheat pits, traders said. Prices may have also reacted to a visit to the US by Russia's acting agriculture minister who announced that Russia would be purchasing US grains.

March corn closed up 1/4 at \$3.57 1/2.

Cot wheat rallied on Friday on heavy fund buying and aggressive exports to China as well as rumors that Russia will be purchasing wheat, traders said. The March futures contract closed up 16 at \$5.06 1/2 per bushel.

Soybean futures closed lower on fund selling on Friday, traders said. Favorable crop weather in South America also contributed to a bearish sentiment and the March futures contract closed down one at \$7.24 1/2 per bushel.

A price correction after a two-day rally eased NYCE cotton futures to a slightly lower close on Friday, traders said. The active March contract closed down 0.24 cents at 87.50 a pound.

CSCE March sugar futures ended sharply higher in brisk trading on Friday as fund buying pushed the March contract to an 11-month settlement high, traders said. The March contract settled 0.47 higher at 12.19 cents a pound.

CSCE coffee futures settled higher for the fourth consecutive day on Friday, boosted by fresh fund buying, traders said. The March contract settled 5.20 cents higher at 116.95 cents a pound.

An announcement by the ACP that they would extend the coffee export quota scheme beyond June 1996 also supported prices.

*Courtesy of Michael Zwebner, CommStock Trading Ltd.*

### US central bank considers cut in rates again

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The Federal Reserve meets this week to consider cutting interest rates for the second time in two months to pep up the US economy.

With growth slowing and inflation fears receding, most analysts are convinced another rate cut is likely, but they are unsure whether it will occur this week or later in the first quarter.

In a poll of 50 private economists, 43 forecast the central bank would lower short-term rates in the first quarter. About half expect the Fed to act this week, at a two-day meeting that starts tomorrow.

# Japanese mad at state loan scheme

TOKYO (Reuters) - Public anger has been running high in Japan since taxpayers learned they must help foot the bill for a bad loan mess with ugly strands snaking through the corridors of political, financial and bureaucratic power.

"Trying to find morals in politicians and bankers is like trying to find morals in cockroaches," said critic Makoto Sataka, main speaker at a meeting on Thursday of a citizens' protest group against a government scheme to resolve the issue.

The government plans to use a huge dose of taxpayers' money to clean up the mess involving seven housing loan firms, now virtually insolvent, which sank under the weight of rash property loans made during the "bubble" economy of the 1980s.

The loans, many of which authorities have said were made to firms linked with gangsters, went bad when the "bubble" burst and real estate prices slumped in the early 1990s.

Around 685 billion yen in public

money has already been earmarked to help cover losses from loans deemed "unrecoverable", and the ruling coalition has also promised public funds to cover half of any future losses arising.

Newspaper polls have shown that over 70 percent of Japanese oppose the use of public money in the government scheme.

"You have people who took out loans and then had their houses fall on them in the [January 1995] Kobe earthquake, but they still have to pay their loans back," said Hisako Iwase, one of the protest group's organizers.

"For the government to ask them to bail out financial institutions which couldn't get their act together is plain-wicked."

Participants in the anger was directed at what they saw as perpetual corruption in government, rather than the mortgage firms themselves. "It's the whole economic system which is bad - politicians, bureaucrats and bankers," said Susumu Hiron, 67, a teacher who attended the inaugural meeting.

It drew more than 250 people and the group now plans to extend its network nationwide.

Finance Ministry bureaucrats, regulators of the industry, have come under most fire since it came to light that many secured well-paid jobs at the mortgage firms on retiring.

Right-wing activists have been especially vocal, accusing the government of using public pay for its own sins.

In two separate protest incidents in the past week, rightists rammed buses into the gates of parliament and police headquarters. In the latter case, the driver mistook the police building for the Finance Ministry.

Whether public ire will remain strong enough to change the course of the government policy is another matter.

The coalition has stated it is committed to the plan and most banks involved in the controversy have agreed in principle to its content. Moreover, the same polls which detail public anger to

the scheme also show strong support for new Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and his cabinet, who took office this month.

This is despite the fact that Hashimoto served as finance minister in 1990 when the ministry introduced restrictions on lending to real estate developers but exempted mortgage firms.

The main opposition party also has ex-finance ministers in its ranks and analysts say that while it will make a song and dance about the scheme, it does not want to kill it outright.

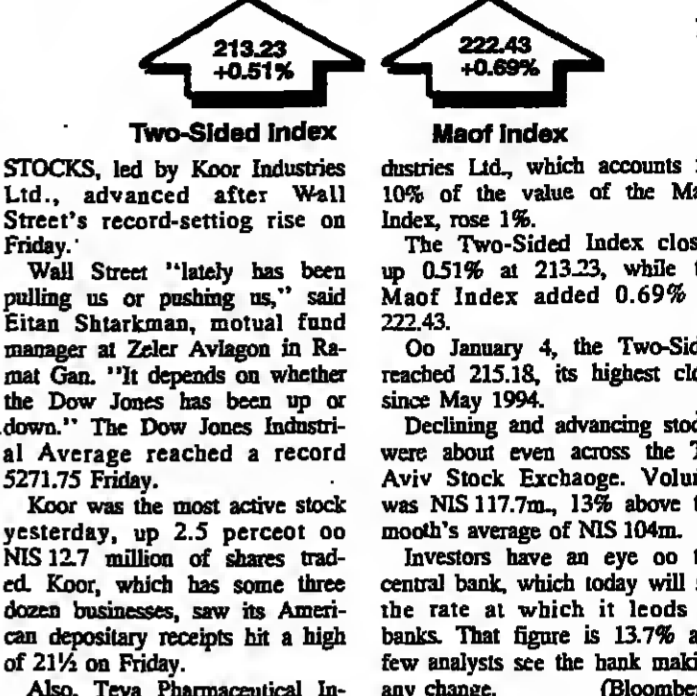
"The plan looks like its going through... the Japanese public are going to get their pockets picked and that's the bottom line," said John Neuffer, a political analyst at Mitsui Marine Research Institute.

But Neuffer also said current fury could "make it more difficult for taxpayers' funds to be used in future bailouts," and that some smaller financially troubled banks could find themselves without government rescue plans.

# Both indexes rise

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

ROBERT DANIEL



# China threat hits Taiwan economy

TAIPEI (Reuters) - China's latest threat has hit Taiwan where it hurts - in its economy.

Beijing's refusal to deny a New York Times report that it has plans for a "limited attack" on the island after presidential elections here on March 23, has had both concrete and psychological effects.

Taiwan's share index closed on Saturday at 4,861.53 points, down 3.5 percent from the start of the week and below the 5,000-point level which had acted as a key support in the slow recovery of a market that fell 27% in 1995.

Brokers said the fall was due to China's reported plan for 30 days of missile strikes after the election to teach a lesson to the expected victor in the polls, President Lee Teng-hui.

"Very few people are willing to enter the market now amid all these uncertainties," said Eric Liu of brokerage National Securities in Taipei. "It's too much of a risk."

Alarmed industrialists criticized the government for antagonizing China just as newly released figures showed this island's slowing economy could ill-afford a confidence crisis.

"I think the political argument at this stage is silly, because people's welfare is more important," said Earle Ho, chairman and CEO of major steelmaker Tung Ho Steel Enterprise.

Ho's company has joined in a US\$60 million tin plate project in China. Like many Taiwan investors on the Chinese mainland, it sees good relations with Beijing as paramount.

Ho said Taiwan's economy was plagued by rising costs and narrowing profit margins - two of many complaints cited by investors who have poured US\$24 billion into China's promising market.

The New York Times report quoted Chinese officials as telling a former US administration official that Beijing wanted to pressure Lee into scaling back his efforts to gain greater international

recognition for Taiwan.

China, which has been at odds with Taiwan since the end of a civil war in 1949, regards the island as a renegade province that is not entitled to a place on the world stage.

At the root of China's anger with Taiwan is a belief that Lee, while professing a goal of reunification, wants to steer the island toward formal independence from its giant neighbor.

But while many in Taiwan support a separate political identity, more and more people see that their economic future is inseparable from China.

A Chinese National Federation of Industries survey said last week that 70.18 percent of 117 local businessmen polled were apprehensive over mounting tensions across the Taiwan Straits.

Most respondents also said Taiwan's grand design to engineer itself into a regional center for manufacturing, financial and transport industries would be just a dream unless relations with

China improved.

"Who, I ask you, is going to make their regional operations base in an island under constant threat of attack from one of the most unpredictable countries on earth?" said a representative from a major foreign manufacturing company based here.

Other analysts said a spate of statistics showing declining health in this Asian Tiger's economy would put pressure on Lee to find an accommodation with China as the election nears.

On Saturday the index of leading indicators, which forecasts economic activity, predicted a declining trend or "blue light" for the third straight month.

Businessmen pessimistic about the economy outnumbered optimists for the eighth consecutive month, with 27% expecting a downturn while 15% seeing growth, the government said.

Industrial output in December fell 2.12% from a year earlier, the first year-on-year decline for 22 months.

## TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading			Two-sided trading		
Name	Price	% Change	Name	Price	% Change
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10

# Becker wins Australian Open Jamchee No. 1 scorer

MELBOURNE (AP) - Michael Chang was surprised at how patiently Boris Becker played at the start of their Australian Open final.

That was an unusual tactic for the free-swinging Becker, and it got him off to a 4-0 lead on his way to a 6-2, 6-4, 2-6, 6-2 triumph yesterday.

But over the long run, the German who burst on the scene by becoming the youngest Wimbledon champion ever at age 17 in 1985 was more patiently working his way back up after a five-year drought in Grand Slam tournaments.

His last Grand Slam victory had been in 1991, also in the Australian, when he climbed briefly to the No. 1 ranking. He slipped out of the top 10 in the rankings in 1993. In the Australian Open, he lost in the first round in 1993, skipped 1994 and lost in the first round again in 1995.

Attention here focused on who would emerge No. 1 - Pete Sampras, Andre Agassi or Thomas Muster. Sampras was gone after three rounds and Muster after four. Agassi thus was able to reclaim the top ranking by reaching the semifinals.

Meanwhile, Chang was charging through to the final without losing a set - even against Agassi. Becker was struggling, coming from behind in his first two rounds - both five-set matches - before starting to find his form.

In losing to Chang, Agassi went all-out for winners, often hitting big misses instead.

Yesterday, Becker broke in Chang's first two service games by setting up his points carefully, changing pace and drawing Chang into uncharacteristic errors.

"He was playing some pretty good tennis today, the kind of tennis you normally wouldn't see as much from Boris," Chang said.

"Acrobatic volleys reminiscent of the young Boris also helped.

"It's a bit frustrating because you have an opportunity to put the ball away and Boris just happens to guess right on the shot and get his racket on it and play a great shot," Chang added.

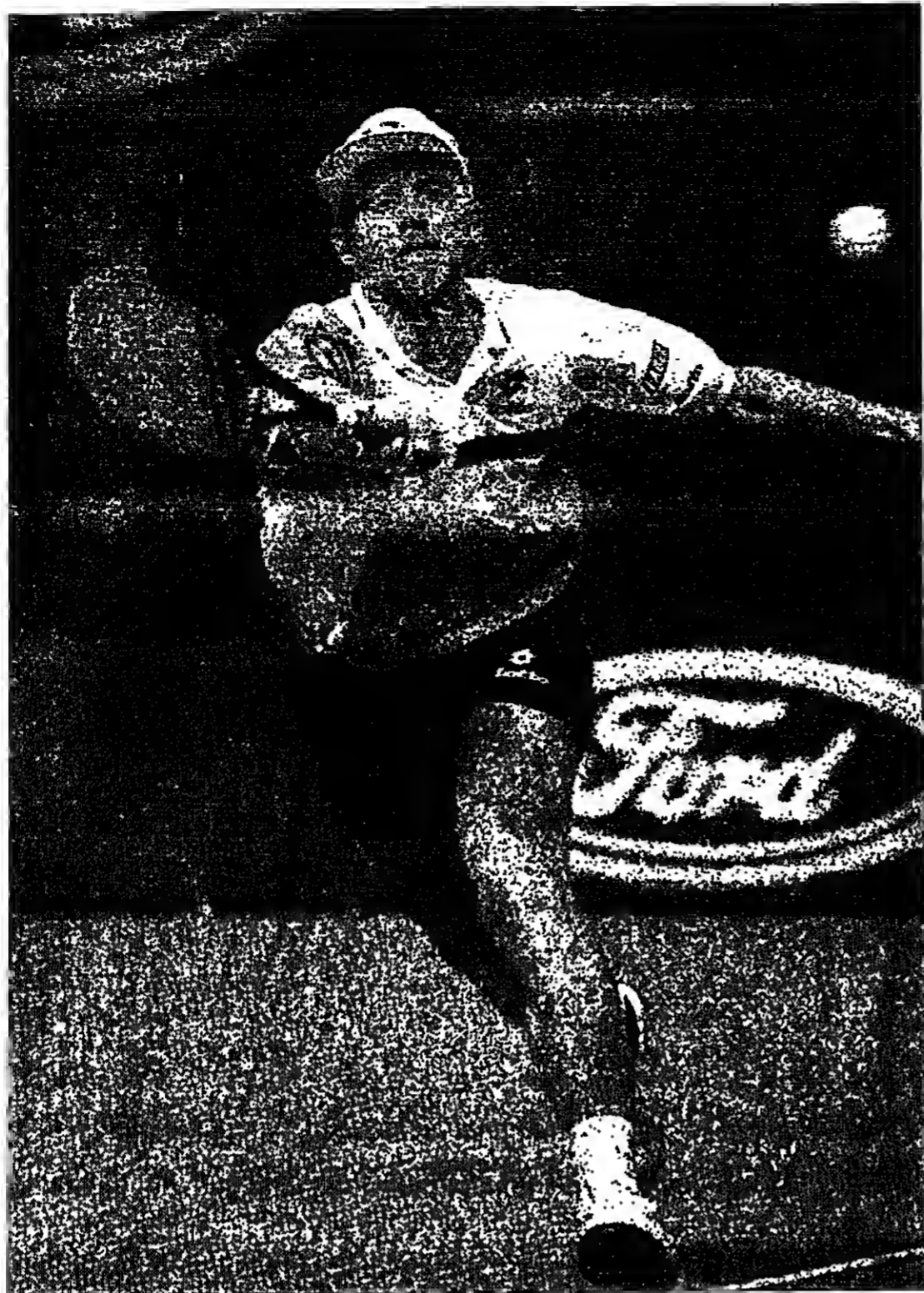
Becker married in 1993, at his career's low point. He said yesterday that his wife asked for another Grand Slam triumph:

"Please do it one more time for me."

"I was patient," he said. "It took me 2 1/2 years to get closer and closer."

"He studied why other players were beating him.

"I sort of changed my whole game. I started from the serve, from the second serve, my volley, from my fitness to my ground-



WINNING STYLE - Boris Becker wears down Michael Chang en route to the Australian Open title yesterday.

strokes. I think I became a complete player who doesn't rely only on his first serve but who changes his tactics sometimes," Becker added.

Now, "in the autumn of my career," the 28-year-old Becker said he still can add to his total of six Grand Slam titles. He has his sights set now on the French Open, the only Slam he hasn't won.

And winning all four in one

year, something fast done by a man when Rod Laver did it in 1969, "is a dream of mine," Becker said.

Chang acknowledged the expectations on him after he won the French Open in 1989, also at age 17. He since has reached only two Grand Slam finals, losing to Muster in the French last year before bowing to Becker yesterday.

The 1989 triumph was "very, very unexpected," he said, and now "sometimes people forget I'm only 23 years old... I feel like my best times is still ahead of me. ... Hopefully things will come my way soon."

The tournament brought on change to the rankings of Becker, who is No. 4, and Chang, who is No. 5. Muster moved to No. 2 behind Agassi. Sampras dropped to third.

MACCABI Jerusalem decided not to make the trip up north, and lost. Hapoel Safed decided to make the journey down south, and won. Herzliya pulled out a last second victory over Holon while Doron Jamchee moved past Mickey Berkovitz as the league's all-time leading scorer. Just another week in the National Basketball League. Gaïll Elyon 113, Mac. Jerusalem 81.

It was a sad night in the annals of the National Basketball League as the Maccabi Jerusalem organization struck over a lack of funding as none of the players on the 12 man roster made the trip up north to Kfar Bloem.

Gaïll coach David Blatt, in a show of class, decided not to give his starters extensive playing time in an effort not to embarrass the Jerusalem youth team that played on the club's behalf.

An interesting result of the strike was that for the first time in recent memory, ten native Israelis started a game. One of those sabras, Jerusalem's Shahar Amos, proved to be a lone bright light in an otherwise dreary evening by scoring 34 points and establishing himself as a name to watch out for in the near future.

Hapoel Safed 93, Hapoel Eilat 80. Hapoel Safed, another team mired in financial troubles, made the trip down south after the Safed Municipality funneled NIS 1 million to the club yesterday afternoon. It proved to be a worthwhile journey as Safed improved their record to 7-5 and kept their upper-playoff hopes alive.

Safed jumper out to a 22-6 lead and forced Eilat to play comeback the rest of the way. Eilat, led by J.J. Eubanks and Ronen Ehrlich clawed their way

back into the game and closed the gap to 41-37 at the half.

The game remained close throughout most of the second half, but every time that it appeared that Eilat had a chance of taking the lead, Safed superstar Melvin Neubern seemed to reanimate with either a clutch basket or a big assist to extend the lead. Neubern proved to be too much, especially in the second half when he scored 24 of his 33 points as Safed pulled it out in the end. Neubern was ably assisted by Barak Peleg (13 points) who also contributed two clutch baskets late in the second half.

Bnei Herzliya 78, Hapoel Holon 77. Herzliya proved to be the venue of the only exciting game of the night, as Viki Revach missed a short jumper at the end of the game allowing Bnei Herzliya to escape with the victory.

The game was tight throughout the first half as David Thirskill and Derrick Hamilton paced the way for their respective clubs.

Herzliya's Lior Arditi and John Hudson, in an attempt to offset the absence of their leading scorer Amir Katz (out with injury) asserted themselves offensively in the second half, enabling Herzliya to jump out to a 68-57 lead with under seven minutes remaining. It was then that Herzliya point guard, Ami Nawzi picked up his fourth foul.

Holon coach Hanoch Mintz made a brilliant tactical move by shifting his top offensive threat, Milt Wagner, to the PG position opposite Nevi. Wagner abused Nawzi until Herzliya coach Muli Katzarin inserted Koren Amisha opposite Wagner. The move was to no avail, however, as Holon rode its momentum to a 74-73 lead

## ELI GRONER

with less than three minutes to play. Herzliya came right back with a Hudson slam to take back the lead, 75-74. Herzliya maintained its one point margin until Steve Malovic turned the ball over with 30 seconds to go, allowing Holon to take the game last shot. However, Revach couldn't connect on his medium range jump shot and Herzliya held on. Arditi had 24 points while Hudson and Thirskill chipped in 19 and 17, respectively. Hamilton had 17 for Holon.

Maccabi TA 91, Maccabi RG 82. Doron Jamchee opened the game up with a three point shot, making him the league's all-time leading scorer with 8,237 points. Jamchee moved past Mickey Berkovitz as the most prolific scorer in National Basketball League history. Jamchee finished with 27 points to go along with Tom Chambers 29 in a game that wasn't as close as the score indicated.

Mac. E. Lesion 109, Hapoel Gvat 83. Brian Oliver poured in 25 points and James Gully added 22 as Rishon did whatever they wanted en route to destroying Gvat who were playing without their best player, Derrick Gervin. Stevie Thompson had 29 for the losers.

## National Basketball League

	W	L	Pts
Maccabi Tel Aviv	11	1	23
Hapoel Jerusalem	10	1	21
Hapoel Gaïll Elyon	9	4	20
Bnei Herzliya	8	4	20
Maccabi Rishon	8	4	20
Hapoel Safed	7	5	19
Hapoel Holon	5	7	17
Hapoel Eilat	4	8	16
Maccabi Jerusalem	3	9	15
Hapoel Tel Aviv	3	8	14
Hapoel Gvat	2	10	14
Maccabi Ramat Gan	2	10	14

## Arad claims bronze

### HEATHER CHAIT

from Spain.

Arad won her first fight against an opponent from the Czech Republic and then lost by ippon to a Russian judoka. She won her last two fights against a Polish

opponent and then Blasco to collect the bronze medal.

Arad, together with her coach Dani Leopold and Eilat Yaron arrived in Russia after a 22-hour flight from their training camp in Austria and Arad managed to grab just four hours sleep before appearing for her fight.

## Villa makes it to final 16

LONDON (Reuters) - A 63rd minute penalty from Dwight Yorke gave Aston Villa a 1-0 win at First Division Sheffield United yesterday and a place in the fifth round of the F.A. Cup.

After heavy snowfalls wiped out 11 of Saturday's 14 scheduled ties, and with two of the three matches that were played ending in draws, Manchester United is the only other team assured of a place in the last 16.

Queens Park Rangers faces Chelsea in the other tie, scheduled for tonight.

Yorke, who scored the winner when Villa beat Tottenham 2-1 in the league last week, coolly stroked the half-volley United goalkeeper Alan Kennedy gave Villa victory. The spot-kick was awarded after Villa's Serbian international striker Savo Milosevic was fouled.

Sheffield United, the bottom team in the First Division, who knocked out Arsenal in the third round, made little impression on the visitors who had plenty of chances to win by an even bigger margin.

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